

REIMAGINING CITY HALL PLAZA

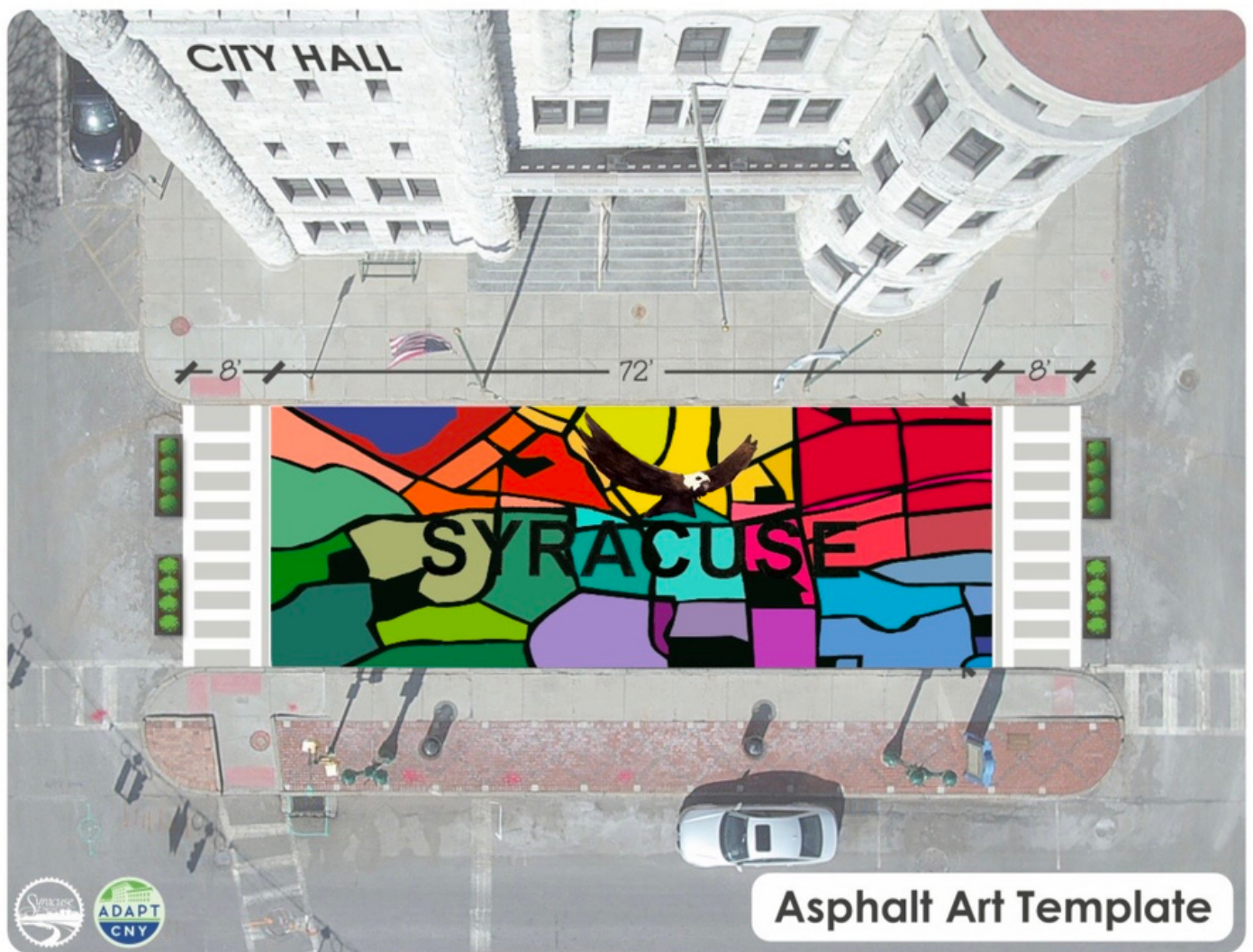
SYRACUSE ASPHALT ART PROJECT

Semi-Finalist – Barbara King



CITY OF SYRACUSE + ADAPT CNY
MAYOR BEN WALSH





Artist's Intention

My mural promotes Syracuse by using vibrant colors and symbolic imagery. The mural will create a welcoming public space in front of City Hall for people to gather, relax or partake in various community activities. In my proposed design, different blocks of similar colors represent various neighborhoods in Syracuse and look like stained glass. The suggestion of stained glass is also a connection with the famous stained glass artist, Henry Keck, who opened his Syracuse studio in 1913. The black lines in the design were derived from a map and represent major roads in Syracuse. The crossroads of Route 81 runs north and south and the New York State Thruway runs east and west through Syracuse. These crossroads helped to develop the city. Within the black lines are several black shapes that symbolize parks in different neighborhoods of Syracuse. In the top left corner of the design is a blue shape that represents Onondaga Lake. The lake is a natural resource for the city and is historically integral for the development of Syracuse. There are various colors of orange that surround the lake. The juxtaposition of the blue and orange colors are a connection to the school colors for Syracuse University. The university is an important educational institution for Syracuse. In the middle of the design the word "SYRACUSE" is spelled out to identify that the mural is conceptually representing the city of Syracuse. In the top center of the design is an eagle with its wings spread out as if it is soaring. The eagle signifies the resurgence of eagles at Onondaga Lake and serves as a metaphor for hope and the promise of a bright future for Syracuse. Creating a large asphalt mural in front of the city hall in downtown Syracuse opens up the opportunity for people to come together, and fosters community. It is a positive step for the revitalization of the city of Syracuse that I hope to be a part of if my design is chosen.

Barbara King

ARTIST

BIO

Barbara King is a mixed media, installation artist. She graduated from the University of Buffalo, and received a BFA in Printmaking and was certified to teach art. Ms. King obtained her MFA degree from Hunter College and was awarded the William Graft Scholarship. She was born in Syracuse, NY and currently lives and has a studio in Hastings-on-Hudson, NY.



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